

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A sabot, comprising:  
a compression section defining a payload receiving chamber at a forward end of the sabot for receiving a slug therein; and  
a solid section extending rearwardly from the compression section;  
wherein said compression section is adapted to at least partially collapse upon firing to produce a volume change.
2. (original) The sabot of claim 1, wherein the compression section further includes a locking ring mounted within the payload receiving chamber for engaging the slug.
3. (original) The sabot of claim 1, wherein the payload receiving chamber further includes a post.
4. (original) The sabot of claim 1, wherein the solid section includes a powder cup section formed opposite the compression section.
5. (original) The sabot of claim 1, wherein the compression section comprises a plurality of interconnected collapsible fins.

6. (original) The sabot of claim 1, wherein the sabot comprises a high density polyethylene.

7. (original) The sabot of claim 1, wherein the sabot is axisymmetric.

8. (currently amended) A firearm round, comprising:

a sabot including a compression section defining a payload receiving chamber therein and a solid section connected to the compression section; and

a slug received and fitted within the payload receiving chamber of the sabot;

wherein said compression section is adapted to at least partially collapse upon firing to produce a volume change.

9. (original) The firearm round of claim 8, wherein the slug comprises a nose, a driving band adjacent the nose and a stem connected to the driving band.

10. (original) The firearm round of claim 9, wherein the nose of the slug includes a nose cavity.

11. (original) The firearm round of claim 9, wherein the stem of the slug includes a post cavity.

12. (original) The firearm round of claim 11, wherein the payload receiving chamber of the sabot includes a post fitted within the post cavity of the slug.

13. (original) The firearm round of claim 9, wherein the driving band includes a length less than about 25% of the overall diameter of the firearm round.

14. (original) The firearm round of claim 9, wherein the stem has a diameter less than a diameter of the driving band.

15. (original) The firearm round of claim 8, wherein the slug comprises at least about 95% by weight lead.

16. (original) The firearm round of claim 15, wherein the slug further comprises antimony.

17. (original) The firearm round of claim 8, wherein the slug is plated or jacketed.

18. (original) The firearm round of claim 8, wherein the sabot comprises a high density polyethylene.

19. (original) The firearm round of claim 8, wherein the compression section of the sabot further comprises a locking ring mounted within the payload receiving chamber so as to engage the slug.

20. (original) The firearm round of claim 8, wherein the solid section of the sabot includes a powder cup.

21. (original) The firearm round of claim 8, wherein the compression section of the sabot comprises a plurality of interconnected collapsible fins.

22. (currently amended) A sabot, comprising:  
a compression section defining a payload receiving chamber therein;  
a post integrally formed within the payload receiving chamber;  
a locking ring residing within the payload receiving chamber; and  
a solid section connected to the compression section;  
wherein said compression section is adapted to at least partially collapse upon firing to produce a volume change.

23. (original) The sabot of claim 22, wherein the solid section includes a powder cup section.

24. (original) The sabot of claim 22, wherein the compression section comprises a plurality of interconnected collapsible fins.

25. (original) The sabot of claim 22, wherein the sabot comprises a high-density polyethylene, low-density polyethylene, linear, low-density polyethylene, and combinations thereof.

26. (original) The sabot of claim 22, and further comprising a projectile received within the payload receiving chamber and extending forwardly from the compression section.

27. (currently amended) A firearm round, comprising:  
a sabot including a compression section defining a payload receiving chamber therein, a post integrally formed within the payload receiving chamber and a solid section projecting rearwardly from the compression section; a slug fitted to the post of the sabot;  
wherein said compression section is adapted to at least partially collapse upon firing to produce a volume change.

28. (original) The firearm round of claim 27, wherein the slug comprises a stem defining a chamber adapted to receive the post of the sabot.

29. (original) The firearm round of claim 27, wherein the slug projects forwardly from the compression section of the sabot.

30. (original) The firearm round of claim 27, wherein the post substantially fills the payload receiving chamber.

31. (original) The firearm round of claim 27, wherein the slug comprises at least about 95% by weight lead.